

MEMORANDUM FOR: Colonel White

29 October 1953

SUBJECT : Interpretation of NSCID-5 and Its Relationship to Agreed Activities

The attached Memorandum for the Record by Larry Houston concerning a legal interpretation of NSCID-5 is just possibly related to the memorandum which I sent to Larry entitled "Indications of Legalistic Approaches to Definition of Covert Activities." Larry and I both feel that to approach this kind of a problem on a legalistic basis is the least desirable method. Larry does go on to suggest that some program of education and consultation could prevent various components of CIA from getting involved in this type of discussion with other agencies. I suggest the appropriate forum would be the Deputies Meeting at which time either Larry or yourself could discuss this general subject with a view that those present could pass it down to their subordinates. A suggestion could be incorporated that a brief from the Office of the General Counsel on the legal theory would better enable them to stay out of discussions taking a legal approach on this subject which do not really serve a constructive purpose.

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